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LRB097 10762 GRL 51167 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The mission of the Illinois Professionals Health
3 Program (IPHP) is to support and guide Illinois health care
4 professionals to wellness and healing, thereby promoting safe
5 professional practice and enriching the lives of healers and
6 their patients; and

7 WHEREAS, IPHP is available to assist and advocate for a
8 number of health care professionals, including physicians,
9 nurses, dentists, pharmacists, and chiropractors; and

10 WHEREAS, The types of problems that referrals and
11 participants typically face include allegations or actual
12 instances of addictions of all kinds, disruptive behavior,
13 boundary violations, sexual misconduct, and physical and
14 emotional illness; and

15 WHEREAS, The IPHP, which was initially developed by the
16 Illinois State Medical Society, has no disciplinary authority;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Financial and
19 Professional Regulation has approved the IPHP as a monitoring
20 and support service and routinely refers health care
21 professionals for participation in the IPHP; and

1 WHEREAS, According to news reports, the IPHP has received
2 \$234,275 from the Illinois Department of Financial and
3 Professional Regulation since fiscal year 2009 to monitor
4 nurses and pharmacists and the Illinois Department of Financial
5 and Professional Regulation has more than 100 confidential
6 "Agreements of Care, Counseling, or Treatment" in place that
7 allow physicians and other health workers to submit to private
8 monitoring instead of public discipline; and

9 WHEREAS, Concerns have been raised as to whether adequate
10 accountability and oversight exists over the IPHP to ensure
11 patient safety; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 the Auditor General is directed to conduct a management audit
15 of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional
16 Regulation's use and monitoring of the Illinois Professionals
17 Health Program during fiscal years 2009 through 2011; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the audit shall include, but need not be
20 limited to, the following determinations:

21 (1) whether the IPHP is providing the services
22 contracted for by the Department and is adequately

1 monitoring the health professionals' compliance with
2 treatment and rehabilitation plans;

3 (2) whether other requirements established by the
4 contract between the Department and the IPHP are being met;

5 (3) whether health professionals who do not comply with
6 treatment and rehabilitation plans established by the IPHP
7 are appropriately referred to the Department and whether
8 the Department takes disciplinary action, if applicable;
9 and

10 (4) whether the Department has assessed how well the
11 IPHP is performing, such as by determining that the health
12 professionals receiving treatment and rehabilitation
13 services through the IPHP do not pose a risk to the safety
14 and well-being of patients; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the Department of Financial and
16 Professional Regulation, the Illinois Professionals Health
17 Program, and any other entity having information relevant to
18 this audit cooperate fully and promptly with the Auditor
19 General's Office in the conduct of this audit; and be it
20 further

21 RESOLVED, That the Auditor General commence this audit as
22 soon as possible and report findings and recommendations upon
23 completion in accordance with the provisions of Section 3-14 of
24 the Illinois State Auditing Act.